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LAW OFFICES OF ALBERT S. MICHALIK, PPLC
704 228 AVENUE NE
SUITE 193
SAMMAMISH, WA 98074

EXAMINER
SERRAO, RANODHI N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/052,039	PARDIKAR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ranodhi Serrao	2141	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>*18 January 2006*</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-41* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-41* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 18

January 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 18 January 2006 have been fully considered but they

are not persuasive.

3.   The applicant argued in substance the newly added limitations, "by obtaining

capability information from the WebDAV server." However, upon further consideration, it

has been determined that the prior arts of record teach the newly added limitations. See

rejections below.

4.   All arguments regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by

French have been addressed since this rejection has been replaced.

5.   Turning to the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections, the applicant argued that the system

of Serlet does not need to determine whether or not the WebDAV server is capable of

handling specific file requests. The examiner points to col. 6, lines 25-64, wherein Serlet

describes receiving a response from the WebDAV/HTTP server which includes

information appropriate to the request. A returned error code status indicates that the specific file request could not be handled by the WebDAV server. This is furthermore explained in col. 8, lines 26-53.

6.   The applicant furthermore argued that Serlet does not teach using an HTTP OPTIONS request in the manner recited in claim 4. However in col. 7, lines 35-56, Serlet discloses requests that serve the function of HTTP OPTIONS requests. This reasoning is logical since it is in accordance with the rejection of claim 1 limitation of communicating with the WebDAV server to determine whether the request can be handled. This reasoning can be further applied to the argument of claim 5.

7.   Moreover the applicant argued that Serlet teaches systems that are wholly unconcerned with determining whether or not a remote server can handle this type of request, because the very nature of the pre-configured relationship mitigates the need to check in the first place. In response, the examiner points to col. 5, lines 20-52 wherein Serlet states, "In this embodiment, if the private network server is not a WebDAV enabled HTTP server, the information is passed to the operating system to be handled according to methods known to those skilled in the art." From this statement it can be shown that it is inherent that the system of Serlet needs to determine whether or not a remote server can handle a type of request when declaring that the private network server is not a WebDAV enabled HTTP server. And in col. 6, lines 25-64, capability information is given in the status response from the WebDAV server.

8.   In conclusion, the prior arts of record teach the invention as claimed. See rejections below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

10.   Claims 16-23, 25-27, 32-35, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Serlet et al. (6,842,770).

11.   As per claim 16, Serlet et al. teaches a computer-implemented method,

comprising: receiving at a local programming interface layer an application request that

relates to a Uniform Resource Identifier (column 4, line 54-column 5, line 2 and column

5, lines 20-52); providing information corresponding to the request to a local WebDAV

redirector (col. 11, lines 24-49); and determining at the WebDAV redirector whether a

server identified via the application request comprises WebDAV-enabled server by

obtaining capability information from the server, and if so, handling the request (col. 5,

lines 20-52).

12.   As per claim 17, Serlet et al. teaches the application request includes the

Universal Resource Identifier (column 5, lines 20-52).

13.   As per claim 18, Serlet et al. teaches a method wherein the application request

includes an identifier that has been previously mapped to at least part of the Universal

Resource Identifier (column 9, lines 54-63).

14.   As per claim 19, Serlet et al. teaches a method of providing information

corresponding to the request to a local WebDAV redirector comprises polling a set of at

least one redirector (col. 6, lines 25-54: wherein status information serves the function

of polling).

15.   As per claim 20, Serlet et al. teaches a method of providing information

corresponding to the request to a local WebDAV redirector comprises polling a set of at

least one network provider (col. 6, lines 25-54: wherein status information serves the

function of polling).

16.   As per claim 21, Serlet et al. teaches a method wherein the application request

comprises an I/O request directed to a file, and wherein handling the request comprises

creating a local file corresponding to the I/O request (column 7, lines 35-56).

17.   As per claim 22, Serlet et al. teaches downloading at least some file data from

the WebDAV server to the local file (column 4, lines 27-53: wherein accessing

information serves as downloading file data).

18.   As per claim 23, Serlet et al. teaches returning a file handle corresponding to the

local file to the application (column 11, lines 24-49).

19.   As per claim 25, Serlet et al. teaches determining at the WebDAV redirector

whether the server identified via the application request comprises a WebDAV-enabled

server includes, issuing an HTTP OPTIONS request to the server, and evaluating a

corresponding response (column 6, line 65-column 7, line 34: wherein the request is an

options request since it can be a command to write file, rename file, rename directory,

etc.).

20.   As per claim 26, Serlet et al. teaches the application program's request indicates

a share on the WebDAV server and further comprising, issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND

request directed to the share on the WebDAV server (column 11, lines 24-49).

21.   As per claim 27, Serlet et al. teaches a method wherein the application program's

request further indicates a file on the share on the WebDAV server, and further

comprising, issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to the file (column 11, lines

24-49).

22.   As per claim 32, Serlet et al. teaches a computer-readable medium having

computer-executable instructions for performing the method claim 16 (column 2, line 51-

column 3, line 19).

23.   As per claim 33, Serlet et al. teaches in a computer network, a system

comprising, an application program that issues WebDAV-related requests including at

least one request having an identifier corresponding to a WebDAV server (column 6,

lines 25-64); a WebDAV redirector, the WebDAV redirector configured to communicate

with a network server to obtain capability information thereof (col. 11, lines 24-49), and

to evaluate the capability information to determine whether the network server

comprises a WebDAV-enabled server (col. 6, lines 25-64; wherein the response from

the WebDAV/HTTP server serves the function of capability information); and when the

capability information indicates that the network server is WebDAV-enabled, the

WebDAV redirector locally handling each request corresponding to the WebDAV server

that can be handled locally, and communicating with the WebDAV server to handle

requests that cannot be handled locally (col. 7, lines 35-56).

24.   As per claim 34, Serlet et al. teaches a system wherein the identifier

corresponding to a WebDAV server issued by the application comprises a Universal

Resource Identifier (column 5, lines 20-52).

25.   As per claim 35, Serlet et al. teaches a system wherein the identifier

corresponding to a WebDAV server issued by the application comprises an identifier

previously mapped to a share on the WebDAV server (column 9, lines 54-63).

26.   As per claim 38, Serlet et al. teaches a system that: creates a local

representation of the file (column 6, line 65-column 7, line 34); determines whether the

file exists on the WebDAV server, and if so, downloads at least some of the data from

the WebDAV server file to the local representation of the file (column 4, lines 27-53:

wherein accessing information serves as downloading file data); returns a file handle

corresponding to the local representation of the file to the application program (column

11, lines 24-49); receives I/O read and write requests associated with the file handle

and handles the I/O read and write requests via the local representation of the file

(column 11, lines 24-49; column 12, lines 35-44); and receives an I/O close request

associated with the file handle, and handles the I/O close request by closing the local

representation of the file and uploading at least part of the local representation of the file

to the WebDAV server (column 11, lines 24-49).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

27.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

28.   Claims 1-11, 15, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Serlet et al. and French (6,654,794).

29.   As per claim 1, Serlet et al. teaches in a computer network, a method comprising

directing the I/O request to a WebDAV redirector communicating with the WebDAV

server to determine whether the request can be handled by obtaining capability

information from the WebDAV server (see Serlet et al., col. 6, lines 25-64; wherein the

response from the WebDAV/HTTP server serves the function of capability information),

and if so, requesting a file system to create the file (see Serlet et al., col. 7, lines 35-56),

downloading the file to a local cache of the file system (see Serlet et al., col. 9, lines 54-

63); returning a file handle corresponding to the file in the local cache to the application

program (see Serlet et al., col. 11, lines 24-49); and providing access to the file in the

local cache of the file system via the file handle (see Serlet et al., col. 9, line 64-col. 10,

line 13); and receiving a request to close the file via the file handle, and when received,

uploading the file from the local cache of the file system to the WebDAV server (see

Serlet et al., col. 12, lines 45-54). But fails to teach receiving at an I/O manager an I/O

request initiated from an application program directed to a file on a WebDAV server.

French teaches receiving at an I/O manager an I/O request initiated from an application

program directed to a file on a WebDAV server (col. 4, line 58-col. 5, line 19). It would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

modify Serlet et al. to receiving at an I/O manager an I/O request initiated from an

application program directed to a file on a WebDAV server in order to provide a client

with an improved network file system driver for accessing a remote resource maintained

by a server in communication with the client via a data network (see French, col. 2, lines

1-7).

30.   As per claims 2-11, and 15, the above-mentioned motivation of claim 1 stands as the motivation to further combine Serlet et al. and French.

31.   As per claim 2, Serlet et al. and French teach receiving an I/O request initiated from an application program comprises, receiving a Universal Resource Identifier corresponding to a file on the WebDAV server (see Serlet et al., column 9, lines 38-53).

32.   As per claim 3, Serlet et al. and French teach wherein receiving an I/O request initiated from an application program comprises, receiving a filename and an identifier previously mapped to a share on the WebDAV server (see Serlet et al., column 9, lines 54-63).

33.   As per claim 4, Serlet et al. and French teach a method of communicating with the WebDAV server to determine whether the request can be handled, comprises, issuing an HTTP OPTIONS request, and evaluating a response therefrom (see Serlet et al., column 7, lines 35-56: wherein requests to create or delete a file or directory, etc. serve the function of HTTP OPTIONS request).

34.   As per claim 5, Serlet et al. and French teach a method of communicating with the WebDAV server to determine whether the request can be handled, comprises, issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to share on the WebDAV server, and evaluating a response therefrom (see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49).

35.   As per claim 6, Serlet et al. and French teach a method wherein the WebDAV server returns property information in response to the WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to the share and further comprising, maintaining the property information in a

local data structure (see Serlet et al., column 8, line 66-column 9, line 22; column 11, lines 50-65).

36.   As per claim 7, Serlet et al. and French teach a method of communicating with the WebDAV server to determine whether the request can be handled, comprises, issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to on the WebDAV server, and evaluating a response therefrom (see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49).

37.   As per claim 8, Serlet et al. and French teach a method wherein the WebDAV server returns property information in response to the WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to the file, and further comprising, maintaining the property information in a local data structure (see Serlet et al., column 8, line 66-column 9, line 22; column 11, lines 50-65).

38.   As per claim 9, Serlet et al. and French teach a method wherein communicating with the WebDAV server to determine whether the request can be handled comprises: issuing an HTTP OPTIONS request, evaluating a corresponding response, and determining that the server a WebDAV server (see Serlet et al., column 6, line 25-64); issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to a share on the WebDAV server, evaluating a corresponding response, and determining that the share exists on the WebDAV server, the response including share property information; and issuing a WebDAV PROPFIND request directed to the file, evaluating a corresponding response, and determining that the file exists, the response including file property information (see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49).

39.   As per claim 10, Serlet et al. and French teach a method of maintaining the share

property information and the file property information in at least one local data structure

(see Serlet et al., column 8, line 66-column 9, line 22; column 11, lines 50-65).

40.   As per claim 11, Serlet et al. and French teach a method of communicating with

the WebDAV server indicates that the request can be handled, and further comprising,

communicating with at least one other local component to indicate that at least this

request can be handled (see Serlet et al., column 5, lines 20-52).

41.   As per claim 15, Serlet et al. and French teach a computer-readable medium

having computer-executable instructions for performing the method claim 1 (see Serlet

et al., column 2, line 51-column 3, line 19).

42.   As per claim 36, Serlet et al. teaches the above-mentioned limitations of claim

33, but fails to teach a system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives requests from

the application via an application programming interface. However, French teaches a

system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives requests from the application via an

application programming interface (see French, col. 4, line 66-col. 5, line 19). It would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

modify Serlet et al. to a system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives requests from

the application via an application programming interface in order to perform its various

operations and to provide the requisite functionality of its features (see French, col. 4,

line 66-col. 5, line 19).

43.   As per claim 37, Serlet et al. teaches the above-mentioned limitations of claim

33, but fails to teach a system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives the I/O request

from a manager component. However, French teaches a system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives the I/O request from a manager component (see French, col. 4, lines 58-65). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Serlet et al. to a system wherein the WebDAV redirector receives the I/O request from a manager component in order to order to perform its various operations and to provide the requisite functionality of its features (see French, col. 4, line 66-col. 5, line 19).

44.   Claims 12-14, and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Serlet et al. (6,842,770) and French (6,654,794) as applied to claims 1 and 16 above, and further in view of Prust (6,714,968).

45.   As per claim 12, Serlet et al. and French teach the mentioned limitations of claim 1 above, but fail to teach determining that the file is encrypted on the WebDAV server, and wherein downloading the file to a local cache comprises, communicating with the file system to create an image of the file in the local cache that is also encrypted. Prust teaches determining that the file is encrypted on the WebDAV server, and wherein downloading the file to a local cache comprises, communicating with the file system to create an image of the file in the local cache that is also encrypted (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-55: wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or written). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add determining that the file is encrypted on the WebDAV server, and wherein downloading the file to a local cache comprises, communicating with the file

system to create an image of the file in the local cache that is also encrypted in order to allocate a corresponding storage area for each user and store the respective user information in metadata database (see Prust, col. 7, line 59-col. 8, line 7).

46.   As per claim 13, Serlet et al. and French teach the mentioned limitations of claims 1 and 12 above, but fail to teach communicating with the file system to open the image of the file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data on write requests to the file. Prust teaches communicating with the file system to open the image of the file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data on write requests to the file (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-55: wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or written). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add communicating with the file system to open the image of the file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data on write requests to the file in order to allow the user to access the respective storage area via the many access interfaces (see Prust, col. 7, line 59-col. 8, line 7).

47.   As per claim 14, Serlet et al. and French teach the mentioned limitations of claims 1 and 12 above, but fail to teach uploading the file from the local cache to the WebDAV server comprises, communicating with the file system to read data from the local image of the file such that the file will be uploaded as the encrypted image thereof. Prust teaches uploading the file from the local cache to the WebDAV server comprises,

communicating with the file system to read data from the local image of the file such

that the file will be uploaded as the encrypted image thereof (see Prust, column 7, lines

39-55: wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or

written). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention to add uploading the file from the local cache to the WebDAV server

comprises, communicating with the file system to read data from the local image of the

file such that the file will be uploaded as the encrypted image thereof in order to prevent

unauthorized users from accessing information about other users (see Prust, column 7,

lines 39-55).

48.   As per claim 28, Serlet et al. teaches the mentioned limitations of claim 16 above

but fails to teach the application request comprises an I/O request directed to an

encrypted file, and further comprising, automatically decrypting the data locally when

downloading the encrypted file from the WebDAV server and automatically encrypting

the data locally when uploading the encrypted file to the WebDAV server. However,

Prust teaches the application request comprises an I/O request directed to an encrypted

file, and further comprising, automatically decrypting the data locally when downloading

the encrypted file from the WebDAV server and automatically encrypting the data locally

when uploading the encrypted file to the WebDAV server (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-

55: wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or

written). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention to add the application request comprises an I/O request directed to an

encrypted file, and further comprising, automatically decrypting the data locally when

downloading the encrypted file from the WebDAV server and automatically encrypting

the data locally when uploading the encrypted file to the WebDAV server in order to

allocate a corresponding storage area for each user and store the respective user

information in metadata database (see Prust, col. 7, line 59-col. 8, line 7).

49.   As per claim 29, Serlet et al. teaches the mentioned limitations of claim 16

above, but fails to teach the application request comprises an I/O request directed to a

file that is encrypted on the WebDAV server, and wherein handling the request

comprises, creating a local file corresponding to the I/O request and downloading an

image of the file on the WebDAV server to the local file, wherein the local file is written

by a local system such that the image corresponds to the encrypted image on the

WebDAV server. However, Prust teaches the application request comprises an I/O

request directed to a file that is encrypted on the WebDAV server, and wherein handling

the request comprises, creating a local file corresponding to the I/O request and

downloading an image of the file on the WebDAV server to the local file, wherein the

local file is written by a local system such that the image corresponds to the encrypted

image on the WebDAV server (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-55: wherein encryption

and decryption may be done either when the file is read or written). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add the

application request comprises an I/O request directed to a file that is encrypted on the

WebDAV server, and wherein handling the request comprises, creating a local file

corresponding to the I/O request and downloading an image of the file on the WebDAV

server to the local file, wherein the local file is written by a local system such that the

image corresponds to the encrypted image on the WebDAV server in order to allow the user to access the respective storage area via the many access interfaces (see Prust, col. 7, line 59-col. 8, line 7).

50.   As per claim 30, Serlet et al. and French teach the mentioned limitations of claims 16 and 29 above, but fail to teach communicating with the file system to open the local file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data read on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data written on write requests. Prust teaches communicating with the file system to open the local file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data read on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data written on write requests (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-55: wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or written). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add communicating with the file system to open the local file such that the file system will transparently decrypt file data read on read requests and will transparently encrypt file data written on write requests in order to store data files and communicate the data files to the storage server for storage within the storage area (see Prust, col.1, lines 49-67).

51.   Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Serlet et al. and Prust (6,714,968). Serlet et al. and Prust teach the limitations mentioned above in claims 16, 29, and 30 but Prust fails to teach detecting a request to close the local file, closing the local file, communicating with the file system to open the local file such that the file will not be decrypted when read and uploading the file to the WebDAV server as an encrypted file. Serlet et al. however teaches detecting a request to close

the local file, closing the local file, communicating with the file system to open the local

file (see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49); such that the file will not be decrypted

when read (see Serlet et al., column 12, lines 35-44); and uploading the file to the

WebDAV server as an encrypted file (see Serlet et al., column 5, line 60-column 6, line

14: wherein authenticated access functions as being encrypted). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add

detecting a request to close the local file, closing the local file, communicating with the

file system to open the local file such that the file will not be decrypted when read and

uploading the file to the WebDAV server as an encrypted file in order to allow only the

authorized user to have access to his/her data on the WebDAV server (see Serlet et al.,

col. 6, lines 15-23).

52.   Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Serlet et

al. as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Deen et al. (6,629,127). Serlet et

al. teaches the mentioned limitations of claim 16 above, but fails to teach a networking

request to browse a network share on the WebDAV server, and wherein handling the

request includes enumerating information of the network share. However, Deen et al.

teaches a networking request to browse a network share on the WebDAV server, and

wherein handling the request includes enumerating information of the network share

(see Deen et al., column 16, line 48-column 17, line 15). It would have been obvious to

one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add a networking

request to browse a network share on the WebDAV server, and wherein handling the

request includes enumerating information of the network share in order to carefully track

the structure of the namespace and not the physical layout of the file system (see Deen

et al., col. 16, line 48-col. 17, line 15).

53.   Claims 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Serlet et al. (6,842,770) as applied to claim 33 above, and further in view of Prust

(6,714,968).

54.   As per claim 39, Serlet et al. teach the limitations mentioned above in claims 33

and 38 and furthermore teaches a system wherein requesting the file system to create a

local file that is opened such that transparent encryption and decryption are not enabled

therefor (see Serlet et al., column 5, line 60-column 6, line 14: wherein authenticated

access may not be enabled by the user); requesting the file system to close the local file

(see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49). But fails to teach the WebDAV file is

encrypted, and wherein downloading at least some of the encrypted file data by

requesting the file system to write to the local file without translation thereof. Prust

however teaches the WebDAV file is encrypted (see Prust, column 7, lines 39-55:

wherein encryption and decryption may be done either when the file is read or written);

downloading at least some of the encrypted file data by requesting the file system to

write to the local file without translation thereof (see Prust, column 7, lines 7-34). It

would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify Serlet et al. to a system wherein the WebDAV file is encrypted, and

that creates the local representation of the file by downloading at least some of the

encrypted file data by requesting the file system to write to the local file without translation thereof in order to allow an user to access virtual storage area using a conventional electronic mail software application (see Prust, column 7, lines 7-34).

55.   As per claim 40, Serlet et al. and Prust teach the limitations mentioned above in claims 33, 38, and 39. Serlet et al. also teaches a system requesting the file system to reopen the local file (column 11, lines 24-49). But fails to teach reads therefrom are decrypted and writes thereto are encrypted. Prust however teaches reads therefrom are decrypted and writes thereto are encrypted (column 7, lines 39-55). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add reads therefrom are decrypted and writes thereto are encrypted in order to allocate a corresponding storage area for each user and store the respective user information in metadata database (see Prust, col. 7, line 59-col.8, line 7).

56.   As per claim 41, Serlet et al. and Prust teach the limitations mentioned above in claims 33, 38, 39, and 40. But Prust fails to teach when the WebDAV redirector handles the I/O close request, and before uploading the file, the WebDAV redirector closes the local representation of the file, and reopens the local file by requesting the file system to open the file such that reads therefrom are not decrypted. Serlet et al. however teaches a method of handling the I/O close request, and before uploading the file, closing the local representation of the file (see Serlet et al., column 11, lines 24-49), and reopening the local file by requesting the file system to open the file such that reads therefrom are not decrypted (see Serlet et al., column 5, line 60-column 6, line 14: wherein authenticated access function as being encrypted). It would have been obvious to one
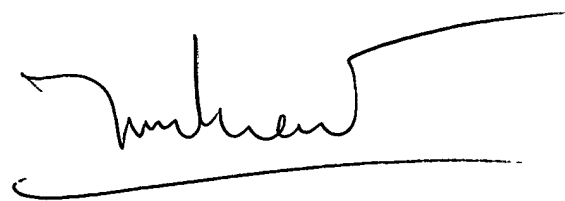
having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add a method of handling

the I/O close request, and before uploading the file, closing the local representation of

the file, and reopening the local file by requesting the file system to open the file such

that reads therefrom are not decrypted in order for authorized users to access their data

on the WebDAV server without needing to input authentication information for every

transmission (see Serlet et al., col. 6, lines 15-23).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Ranodhi Serrao whose telephone number is (571) 272-

7967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).